Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 JIDDA 04970 121559Z

41

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 OMB-01 INRE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

SAM-01 SAB-01 /092 W

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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PAGE 02 JIDDA 04970 121559Z

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

UNCLAS JIDDA 4970

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, SA

SUBJECT: OPENING OF THE ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

REF JIDDA 4910

- 1. THE SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS BEGAN IN JIDDA AT 1030 HOURS LOCAL SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1975. AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SESSION, THE OUTGOING MALAYSIAN PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE CONCLUDED A EULOGY TO THE MEMORY OF KING FAISAL AND THE LATE OMAR SAQQAF (SAUDI MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS) BY URGING HIS FELLOW DELEGATES TO ELECT SAUDI MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN, PRINCE SAUD AL-FAISAL, PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE BY ACCLAMATION. THIS WAS DONE, AND BY ACCLAMATION ALSO, THE FOREIGN SECRETARY OF PAKISTAN AGHA SAHHI WAS NAMED RAPPORTEUR OF THE CONFERENCE, AND THE FOREIGN MINISTEROF SUDAN MANSUR KHALID WAS NAMED ITS SPOKESMAN.
- 2. PRINCE SAUD THEN TOOK THE CHAIR, AND PLACED ON THE FLOOR FOR DISCUSSION THE MEMBERSHIP OF IRAQ. THIS NOMINATION WAS SECONDED BY THE LIBYAN DELEGATE, AND ACCEPTED BY ACCLAMATION. THE LIBYAN DELEGATE ASKED WHETHER THE MALDIVE ISLANDS SHOULD NOT ALSO BE ADMITTED TO MEMBERSHIP, SINCE THEY TOO WERE LISTED ON THE AGENDA. PRINCE SAUD REPLIED THAT THE MALDIVE ISLANDS' MEMBERSHIP WAS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 JIDDA 04970 121559Z

ON THE AGENDA BUT THEIR DELEGATION HAD NOT ATTENDED THE CONFERENCE. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS EITHER APPROVE THE MALDIVE ISLANDS' MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONAL ON THEIR ATTENDANCE AT THE NEXT MEETING, OR POSTPONE THE MATTER ENTIRELY TO THE NEXT MEETING. THE FIRST ALTERNATIVE CARRIED. AT THIS POINT THE NIGERIAN DELEGATION ENTERED THE HALL AND TOOK THEIR SEATS AS AN OBSERVER DELEGATION. PRINCE SAUD WELCOMED THEM AND HOPED

THAT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO WELCOME THEM IN FUTURE MEETINGS AS FULL MEMBERS.

- 3. KING KHALID, ACCOMPANIED BY CROWN PRINCE FAHD BIN ABD AL-AZIZ, SECOND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ABDULLAH BIN ABD AL-AZIZ, MINISTER OF DEFENSE PRINCE SULTAN BIN ABD AL-AZIZ AND VARIOUS OTHER MINISTERS NEXT ENTERED THE CONFERENCE ROOM AMIDST APPLAUSE. KING KHALID WAS FLANKED BY YASSIR ARAFAT, CHAIRMAN OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION, WHO SLIPPED OFF INTO A SIDE SEAT WITH OTHER PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATIVES AS THE KING MOVED TO THE ROSTRUM.
- 4. PRINCE SAUD, SPEAKING TO THE KING AND THE ASSEMBLED DELEGATES GAVE THE INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS (REPORTED IN FBIS LONDON 121119Z JULY 75).
- 5. THE IRANIAN CHIEF DELEGATE, MINISTER OF FOREIGN
 AFFAIRS KHALATBARY ENDED THE OPEN SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE BY THANKING HIS HOSTS FOR THE SPLENDID ARRANGEMENTS
 THAT HAD BEEN MADE FOR ALL DELEGATES. KING KHALID, FOLLOWED
 BY THE SENIOR PRINCES, MINISTERS AND YASSIR ARAFAT, FILED
 OUT. AFTER A FIVE OR TEN MINUTE PAUSE THE DIPLOMATIC
 CORPS WAS INVITED TO LEAVE, AS THE CONFERENCE MOVED INTO
 A CLOSED SESSION. COMMENT: PRINCE SAUD'S OPENING STATEMENT, PLUS THE PRESENCE OF YASSIR ARAFAT, ARE SIGNS THAT
 ISRAEL'S OCCUPATION OF JERUSALEM AND PERHAPS OF ALL ARAB
 LAND ACQUIRED IN THE 1967 WAR, WILL BE SEVERELY CRITICIZED
 BY THE CONFERENCE.

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Message Attributes

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Subject: OPENING OF THE ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE TAGS: PFOR, SA, XF
To: STATE

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